

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ACCRA 01970 110907Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PA-01 USIA-06 SP-02 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 LAB-04
SIL-01 /043 W

-----069958 110911Z /21

P 101636Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2610

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ACCRA 1970

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAV, ELAB, GH

SUBJ: CIVIL SERVANTS STRIKE

1. ACCRA PRESS MARCH 6 CARRIED TWO RELEASES CONCERNING DEMANDS OF CIVIL SERVANTS FOR HOUSING ALLOWANCES AND OTHER FRINGE BENEFITS. PROMINENT STORY IN GHANAIAI TIMES ASSURED WORKERS THAT THE GOG "HAS ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE" PAYMENT OF HOUSING ALLOWANCES TO THOSE NOT IN GOVERNMENT HOUSING AND WARNED THAT ANY STRIKING WORKERS WOULD FACE UNSPECIFIED RISKS. OTHER REPORT COVERED MEETING OF TUC SECRETARY GENERAL ISSIFU WITH GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES UNION REPRESENTATIVES..HE ASSURED THEM THAT THE TUC SEES THEIR DEMANDS AS LEGITIMATE BUT URGED THEM NOT TO STRIKE, AS THE GOVERNMENT IS SEEKING A SOLUTION.

2. ON TUESDAY MARCH 7, FIRST WORK DAY FOLLOWING MARCH 6 INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY, WE RECEIVED REPORTS OF STRIKES AND SLOW-DOWNS BY SOME CIVIL SERVANTS AT THE PETROLEUM REFINERY, AIRPORT CUSTOMS AND POST OFFICE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE REFINERY WORKERS ARE BACK ON THE JOB,BUT SCATTERED WALK-OUTS AND SLOW-DOWNS ARE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE. A PROMINENT LABOR LEADER TOLD LABOR REPORTING OFFICER MARCH 10 THAT WORKERS WILL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ACCRA 01970 110907Z

NOT BE SATISFIED UNTIL THE GOVERNMENT GIVES SOME MORE CONCRETE EVIDENCE THAT IT WILL IN FACT MEET WORKERS DEMANDS.

3. BACKGROUND AND COMMENT: THE WORKERS DISSATISFACTION HAS APPARENTLY BEEN BREWING FOR SOME TIME, SINCE SENIOR CIVIL SERVANTS HAVE GOVERNMENT HOUSING OR AN ALLOWANCE. ALLOWANCES, UNLIKE HIGHER SALARIES, ARE NOT SUBJECT TO

INCOME TAX. TIMING OF STRIKE COULD NOT BE BETTER FROM
WORKERS'S STANDPOINT. WITH REGIME-SPONSORED REFERENDUM
ON UNION GOVERNMENT SET FOR MARCH 30, GOVERNMENT WOULD
FIND IT NAR IMPOSSIBLE TO REFUSE WORKERS' DEMANDS.
ACCORDING TO PRESS, THE NEW ALLOWANCES WILL COST DLS 170
MILLION ANNUALLY. UNLESS SOMETHING IS DONE TO INCREASE
TAX RECEIPTS, THIS PROMISES TO WORSEN THE ALREADY LARGE
BUDGET DEFICIT AND ADD TO GHANA'S TRIPLE-DIGIT INFLATION.
SMITH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL, LABOR STRIKES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ACCRA01970
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780109-0584
Format: TEL
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780385/aaaactpq.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e8534cca-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3379842
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVIL SERVANTS STRIKE
TAGS: ELAB, GH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e8534cca-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014